

Former wrestler pins education on students at RHS

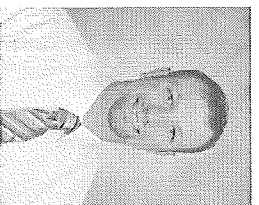
By: Austin Vannatter
Sports Editor

Lance Whitney, who teaches English 9, English 12 and Government classes down the 400 hallway, has walked that hall being more than just a teacher.

Mr. Whitney, a former student-athlete at RHS, came back to teach and coach in his hometown.

A wrestler, he attended RHS in between 1998-2002.

Mr. Whitney wanted to teach at RHS because he loves the community and it is his hometown. "It's pretty cool because this was my end goal to be a teacher and a coach in this building, and I love the community because it's my home," said Mr. Whitney.



Mr. Whitney

After Mr. Whitney left RHS he attended college at Oakland University and the University of Phoenix.

He knew he wanted to be a teacher since high school.

He wanted to be a teacher because he wants to help students further their knowledge.

"I wanted to help students become responsible student-athletes and in the end responsible adults in the community," said Mr. Whitney.

In college, Mr. Whitney majored in in English, and his minor was in Political science.

After college, Mr. Whitney had no trouble finding a job in his hometown.

"A spot was open and Coach Day called me to let me know.

Then I called Mr. Olsen (former RHS Principal) for an interview," said Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Whitney started teaching at RHS in 2012 and had a very memorable first year.

It challenged him very much and showed him what teaching was like.

"It was difficult and a lot of work. I also somewhat felt overwhelmed at times," said Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Whitney's favorite things to teach in class are *Romeo and Juliet* because he loves reading Shakespeare. He also likes when he has his class read the book *1984*.

"It really makes students and I think about the way life is. If you take the book seriously it can make you think differently about things," said Mr. Whitney.

He student taught at New Haven High School during college and enjoyed the experience.

"It was a good experience. I made a lot of good professional contacts who I still talk to today," said Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Whitney is working with many teachers he had in high school, teachers such as Mrs. Germain, Mr. Delore, Mr. Nuss, Ms. Dunslyager, Mrs. Cole, Mr. Schleder, Mrs. Gabridge and Mrs. Michon.

The teachers that taught Mr. Whitney in high school have helped him in his transition to become a teacher at RHS.

"They made themselves available as resources to help with anything I needed," said Mr. Whitney.

Mr. Delore a history teacher at RHS was one of the teachers who had Mr. Whitney as a student.

He is happy to have Mr. Whitney as a teacher because he was always a great student.

"He was very involved in athletics, especially wrestling, and he has a unique passion for education," said Mr. Delore.

Mr. Delore is used to the experience of having former students working alongside of him in the same district, so it isn't an unfamiliar experience having Mr. Whitney by his side.

"There are a few teachers in this district I taught so it isn't too different," said Mr. Delore.

Other than being an English and Government teacher at RHS, Mr. Whitney also coaches wrestling. Mr. Whitney really loves coaching wrestling because it is what he did in high school and is one of his favorite activities.

"It's awesome to give back to the athletes with the memories I had in high school so they can remember wrestling for RHS as finely as I did when I wrestled," said Mr. Whitney.

Teaching is everything Mr. Whitney expected it to be.

"I knew what kind of teacher I wanted to be and what kind of education I could promote. It has been fantastic witnessing significant growth in my students," said Mr. Whitney.

This is one of Mr. Whitney's passions for why he started teaching.

He wants to promote education for students to further help them in real life situations.

Much experience has been gained for Mr. Whitney at RHS. The experience he gained included being a stronger mentor, having better patience and becoming a stronger coach.

Mr. Whitney has grown as a teacher and a coach since being at RHS.

He said, "I've learned to appreciate the amount of work a coach has to do to become successful."

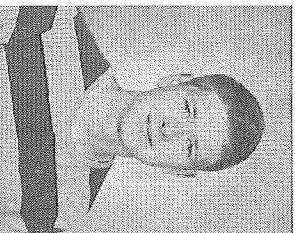
DECA
Continued from page 2

Some students from RHS plan on going into DECA in college.

Senior Andrew Graham said, "DECA gives you a lot of experience and is good for your application to college, and I'm thinking about doing it in college."

Mini also thinks about going into DECA when he's in college. The students prepare for competition in different ways.

Mini said, "With Mr. Brown we had practice session to review how to do it. He did role plays and a few practice tests. There's really no way to prepare for it, the topic is random, and I had to do a promotion for a school and a business's employee manual."



Andrew Graham

Students participating in DECA also want to use their skills in future careers.

Graham said, "I do plan on using the skills I learned from DECA in business. DECA prepares you for marketing and it puts you in situation where you can get real life experience."

The students at Richmond enjoy being a part of DECA.

They learn real life skills that they can utilize later in the business world.

Missing Flight: 239 people are missing from Flight 370

By: Xavier Nuckles
Editorial Editor

239 people and a plane. Where did they go?

Recently, Flight 370 from Malaysia to Beijing has gone missing. The Boeing 777 had 239 passengers aboard when suddenly it never touched down in Beijing.

The flight has been missing since March 8 of this year.

Extensive searches have been conducted but no traces of possible wreckage of the Boeing 777 have been recovered.

Ten ships and nine planes have covered 85,350 square miles looking for the plane, but no traces have been found. Officials said it would have been easier to find a needle in a haystack.

A British submarine, the *HMS Tireless* will be joining the search which might help investigators find the plane. There have been rumors that it has been a hijacking.

The transponder inside the

plane was turned off for this flight, meaning that nobody knows where it crashed or went off course.

However, Malaysian investigators have cleared all 227 of the passengers of any hijacking or sabotage.

This means that the pilots or someone else could have been the hijacker or saboteur. Investigators from multiple countries believe that a pilot or somebody who prepares the plane may have been part of the disaster.

Malaysian rules for flights have been tightened. Nobody

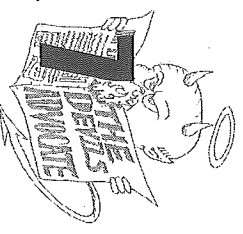
is allowed in the cockpit alone even if they are a first officer or pilot.

Rules of the flying should be tightened after this event. There are some who might be at fault for the missing flight.

There are obviously some hard lessons being learned after this flight went missing. 239 families have lost their loved ones and nobody knows where they went.

Apparently the rules in the United States and other countries that have cracked down on terrorism could have prevented this tragedy. The rules will now get tighter.

In Our Opinion



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Mission Statement
Richmond High School's student newspaper, The Blue Devil's Advocate, strives to serve the student body and provide a public forum to make their ideas heard to the school and community. Our goal is to provide both accurate and balanced stories in order to heighten understanding, entertain, and inform.

Letters
We invite readers to share their thoughts with us by writing to the Editor. See the drop off box in the library or you may email us at: mmurphy@richmond.k12.mi.us. Include your name, address, and grade level.

Staff Editorial: The 3 Rs: Respect, Responsibility and Reason

It's a week to escape, it's a week to have fun, and it's a week that's unforgettable. Spring Break is around the corner and students are gearing up to take off for their trip. Whether it's to Panama City Beach, to the Florida Keys, to Punta Cana, or maybe even staying home, the list goes on. Everyone raves about their Spring Break trip. It is a time for students to relax and not have to think about the daily stresses of school, a job, or sports. It is their time to get away and enjoy it. It is a worry free vacation.

The experience that most students can't wait for is the trip to Panama City Beach. PCB is the most common senior spring break trip. It is most commonly known for its parties, concerts, clubs and of course its beach. Every year thousands of students from different states travel to Florida for this memorable trip. Even Jason Aldean refers to his senior spring break trip in his song "Launched Until We Cried," when he "found an old yearbook, flipped right to the page of that senior trip, down there on that Panama strip."

Senior year is the last time students will be with all their high school friends, so it is

important for them to make the year count. Spring Break is one of those opportunities to have a last hoorah with the classmates they grew up with.

But whether you are in Panama City or any tropical paradise, it is essential to know some of the possible risks. So much goes on during spring break that sometimes we can't keep up with it all. We're blind on what some of these negative factors are.

Statistics from recent spring break trips are staggering. Alcohol-related deaths occur during spring break almost every year. Hundreds of kids are arrested a year for being a minor in possession, or being a minor under the influence.

It's clear that this type of situation could happen to anyone but whether you put yourself in that situation is your decision. It is better to be safe than sorry. Being responsible is so easy if you are smart about your decisions. There is nothing wrong with having fun on your time off and making the most of it, but be smart about it.

One minor mistake can go a long way.

Varsity Girls Basketball Wins Districts For the First Time in 21

By: Beth Beinditt
Staff Writer

One. Two. Three. "I'm In."

The last time the varsity girls basketball team won the district championship was in 1993. With seven seniors, five juniors, and one sophomore on the team, this was our chance to put another year up on that banner hanging in the gym.

One.

We were set to play either the winner of the Marysville vs. Armada game at Armada High School on February 26 at 6:00p.m. During the regular season, we lost to Armada twice by more than 20 points.

We knew both teams were solid and had multiple skilled players, but we predicted Armada to come out victorious. It was a very close game, with Armada winning by three points.

February 26 came.
Nerves. Anxiety. Anticipation. Adrenaline.

Those words describe only some of the feelings our team experienced that day. We knew what needed to be done. Our plan was to slow the temp of the game since Armada likes to get out and run. During practice, we worked on breaking the famous press that Armada's known for. We knew they were going to run it against us because we struggled against it in earlier games. We bumped up our defensive intensity and worked extremely hard on all types of offense.

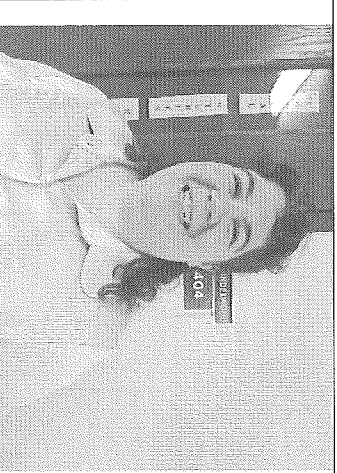
Preparation was key for us. It was going to be hard, but we believed we could do it. We also realized we needed to focus on team work and play well together—that would hopefully get the job done.

And we did. In complete control from start to finish, we put the Tigers in the cage at their own zoo.

We defeated Armada 42-28. After the buzzer sounded, our entire team ran out on the floor and jumped on each other. We were all ecstatic. We accomplished one of the short term goals we set a while back after losing to Armada twice. We knew all along that we could beat them, but for some reason we just had a mental block

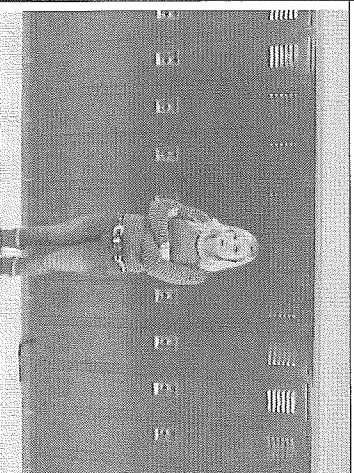
Question of the Week
~*~
What would be your dream Spring Break destination?

Staff



Mrs. Underwood wants to eat spaghetti in Italy.

Senior



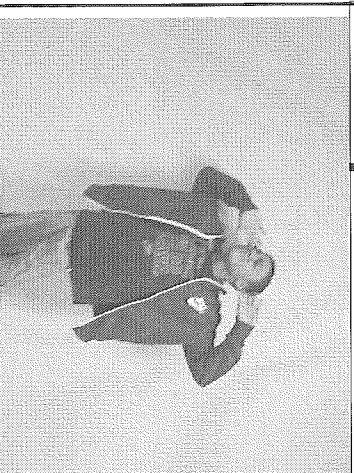
Kelly Cunningham wants to hang ten in Australia.

Junior



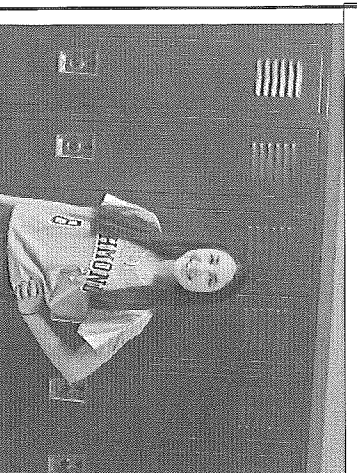
Joshua Kleinhans would like to chill in Panama City Beach.

Sophomore

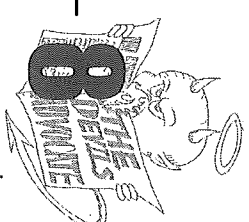


Jordan Gates wants to soak up some rays in Hawaii.

Freshman



Angela Coules would take in some culture in Italy.



Studying down under

By: Jacob Thomas
News Editor

Traveling the world and preparing to be a future teacher.

This is what former RHS and current Central Michigan University student Kristen Skoryanc is doing.

Skoryanc is visiting Australia from March 13 to April 18 as a student teacher.

"There's over 150 study abroad programs offered at Central and there are way less options for those that wish to student teach abroad," said Skoryanc.

Student teaching in Australia was attractive for many reasons. One of these was the language spoken in Australia is English.

"I was too afraid to travel to Africa. While Australia has their own unique culture, there isn't much of a language barrier. I had a family friend participate in the exact same program several years ago, and she had nothing but good things to say, so I just couldn't resist," said Skoryanc.

Skoryanc is visiting Australia along with 14 other colleagues from Central Michigan.

"There are 14 student teachers from CMU that I'm traveling with, are living and teaching in Canberra, a few hours south of Sydney. We've spent most of our time here," said Skoryanc.

Although the majority of their time has been spent in the capital of Australia, the group made time to visit the most popular city: Sydney.

"We did so much there. We climbed the Sydney Harbour Bridge, saw the famous Bondi Beach, got a gorgeous birds eye view of the city at nighttime from the Sydney Tower Eye, watched fireworks at Darling Harbor, and took a boat trip out onto the bay, driving right up next to the Opera House. It's such a gorgeous city! I loved it," said Skoryanc.

While studying abroad, Skoryanc has been able to experience a different culture and learn more about the classroom atmosphere outside of the United States.

"Studying abroad can teach you so many things that you can't learn in a regular classroom. You learn so much about yourself and your own culture from immersing yourself in another one. You develop confidence, self-reliance, appreciation, independence and universal 'people skills.' I wanted to study abroad to increase my global awareness, too. Learn of perspectives on history, Science, and English that differ from those that we have in the States. I want to bring all of my knowledge and experiences to my future classrooms in order to teach students to be critical thinkers and better citizens," said Skoryanc.

Although excited about her future, there is one major hope Skoryanc has.

"Get a job! Well, that's the hope anyways. The goal is to achieve a full-time teaching position somewhere in the metro-Detroit area. I would love to teach Science to middle-schoolers, but I'll take anything I can get. If I have to substitute for a little bit to get my feet wet, I will. I will do whatever it takes to get a full-time job so I'll be able to support myself, and get my own dog," said Skoryanc, who also student taught at a middle school in Michigan before leaving for the land down under.

From an outsider's view, the way of life in Australia does not differ from America.

"The majority of Australians that we've came into contact with are very active. We see bike-riders constantly. There were so many people enjoying the weather outside or going for a run when we were in Sydney the past weekend. They're a lot more "greener" over here, too. Outlets can be turned on and off to save energy. There are always two garbage cans: one for waste and one for things that can be recycled," said Skoryanc.

Even though the way of life is fairly similar, the classroom has a different atmosphere in Australia.

"In the schools that I've visited, it's also very laid-back compared to America. The teachers I've worked with seem to tolerate a lot more and manage their classrooms differently than we do in the U.S. They're not as dependent on their technology as us Americans are. They don't seem to value it as much. Their kids are just as glued to their cell phones as our students are, but wifi isn't available everywhere and technology isn't utilized a lot," said Skoryanc.

Skoryanc said the best part of the trip so far has been getting to know her other colleagues better.

"Probably just getting to know the people that I traveled with. I've had a couple of classes with a few, but other than that, none of us really knew each other before we came here. We now all have a special bond and I've formed some relationships that will last a lifetime. All of us are different in our own way and bring something unique to the field of education. As future teachers, they're also my colleagues. I would love to work alongside one of them one day. And who knows! It may actually happen," said Skoryanc.

While the weather here in Michigan has been below average, Australia has been like a vacation in itself.

"The weather is fantastic! They're transitioning over to fall here, so daily temperatures usually average somewhere from high 60's to high 70's. It's a little chilly in the morning and at night it's around the 40's, but I can't complain," said Skoryanc.

The wildlife in Australia is unlike many regions of the world. And of course the symbol of Australia, the Kangaroo, can be found all over.

Skoryanc said, "Kangaroos are everywhere here. They are just as common as white-tailed deer are back in Michigan. They like to come out at sunrise and at dusk. I think one morning we probably saw 30 in one field."

Cheer

Continued from page 5

Rumps will be attending Davenport with a scholarship for the next five consecutive years. The scholarship is worth \$7,500 a year and goes on for each of the five years.

"I am so excited for this amazing opportunity that I came across. I got offered my scholarship for my skills and basing abilities," said Rumps. Rumps is beyond ecstatic for this experience in her life.

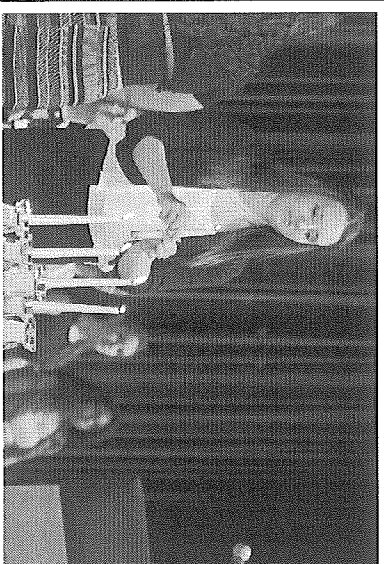
Rumps said, "I made the all girl national championship team. They took first at nationals in Daytona last year, and received a gold bid to attend nationals again this year. My cheerleading is fully funded for by the school, and I will be starting practices at the end of June. At the end of July we go for a week to Kentucky for cheer camp, where we will compete against teams for a gold, silver, or bronze bid to nationals."

Davenport University is a very high-ranked school in cheerleading and Rumps is in a great environment for her skills and opportunities to expand.

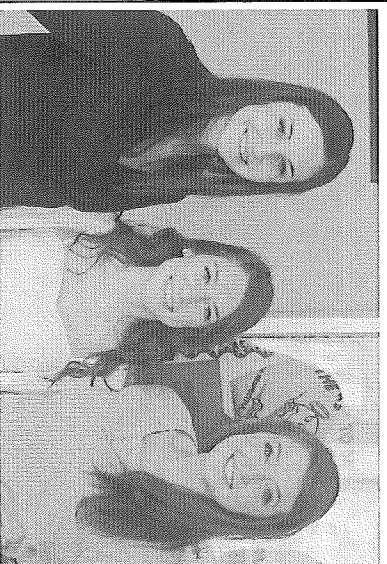
Rumps explained how she could not be happier about this being an opening for her.

Rumps said, "I am ready for what this new step in my life brings, and couldn't be any happier with what lies ahead!"

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Junior Reme McNulty carries her candle to front stage at the NHS Inductions. (Photo credit to RHS Yearbook)



Juniors Nicole Ward, Stephanie Zube and Amanda Vinson pose for a picture at the NHS Inductions. (Photo credit to RHS Yearbook)



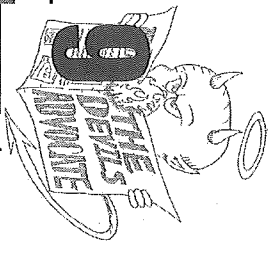
Seniors Carissa Rumps and Tiannah Banks pose for a picture. Both will attend Davenport to cheer next year. (Photo credit to RHS Yearbook)

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MONTHLY
"MUST-SEES"

Action: Captain America: The Winter Soldier
4:00, 5:40, 6:30, 7:00, 8:40, 10:00
Action: Divergent
4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00
Comedy: Muppets Most Wanted
4:20, 7:00, 9:40
Action: Noah
4:00, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00

Would you rather?
Would you rather have to sit all day or stand all day?
Eric Raska, freshman, said he would rather sit all day.

Would you rather be rich at a job you hate or poor with a job you love?
Makenzy Gaigalas, sophomore, said she would rather be poor with a job she loves.

Would you rather be 3 feet tall or 8 feet tall?
"8 feet tall so I could dunk," said Deven Hill, Freshman.

TALENT SPOTLIGHT

Kaelyn Wilcox

Senior Kaelyn Wilcox found a love for art at a young age. She would wake up early and start drawing without anyone asking which gave her the first indication that she was artistically inclined.

"Birds are by far my favorite thing to draw, but human faces are so difficult no matter how much I practice. I haven't done very many cityscapes but I'd love to do some in the future," said Wilcox.

It wasn't until High school when Wilcox had realized her artistic passion could be quenched through Theatre arts.



"I stuck to the behind the scenes stuff my freshmen year but took to the stage my junior year. My first play on stage was The

Tempest, I can still remember how nervous I was because it was Shakespeare," said Wilcox.

After spending four years in theatre arts Wilcox has become much more comfortable on stage. Her favorite part about being in theatre is the ability to become the character.

"When you get on stage you really get into that character and for that couple of minutes you're on stage that's who you really are and that's your life," said Wilcox.

Being in theatre for the majority of her High School career has given her the ability to form some really close bonds with her classmates that she doesn't want to end.

"Heartbreaking. When it comes to theatre we're all a family so now that us seniors are leaving it's sad, and everyone cries. After spending so much time on that stage it's like your starting point, where you began. Definitely sets you up for a bigger and better future ahead of you," said Wilcox

I Bet You Didn't Know...

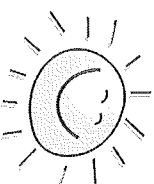
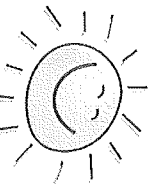
"Spring fever is not just a saying. Experts say the body's makeup changes due to different diets, hormone production and temperament."

"It's a myth that on the spring equinox the length of day is exactly equal to the length of night. The true days of equality always fall before the spring equinox and after the autumnal equinox. At the exact time the equinox occurs, the day will be slightly longer than the night everywhere on earth."

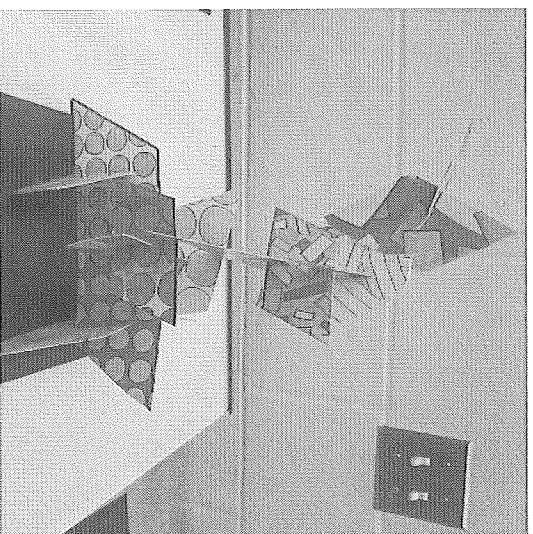
Maura Grunlund, <http://wdtn.com>

"Before we called it spring this season was known as Lent or Lenten."

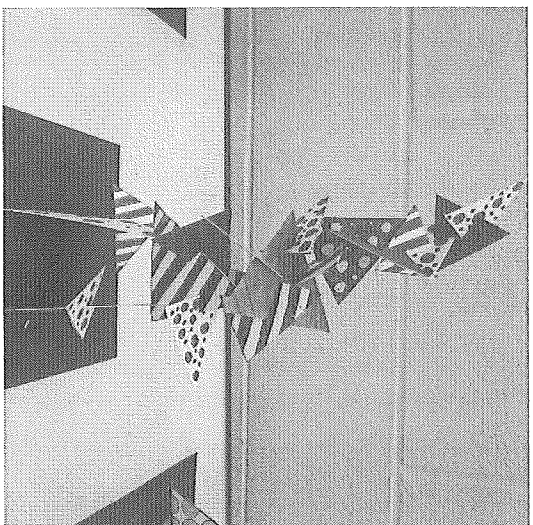
William Hartson, <http://www.express.co.uk/>



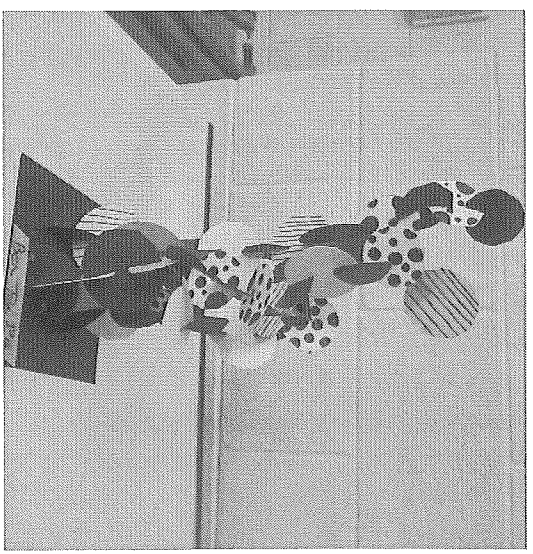
Show us your stuff!



By: Rachel Lozowski
10th grade

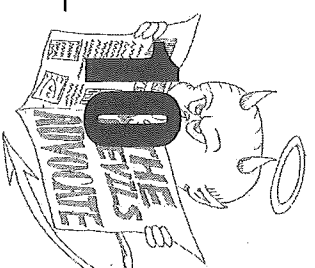


By: Sarah Sneden
12th grade



By: Ben Toia
11th grade

Features and News



New to you

By: Thomas Biafore
News Co-Editor

"Something borrowed something new."

That, in some respects, is exactly what Richmond High School is doing with the Dress Resale through NHS. Senior NHS Vice President Anna Fraser is coordinating a Dress Resale for all girls to sell their old dresses.

"As a senior, I have so many dresses but it's hard to sell them by myself. I thought that there has to be a lot of other girls with the same problem and that if we make a big event out of it, it'd be a great way to raise money for NHS," said Fraser.

Fraser hopes that this resale will work well with NHS to help raise money for the future members of NHS. She's also happy to help all the other girls who have the same problem as her with their dress overload.

"My goal is to have enough girls involved to make this a big enough event," said Fraser.

The idea is that each girl who wants to be involved will pay a fee of \$5 per hanger and each hanger will serve as a location holder for their dress. They will then be able to sell their dress to the public and keep whatever money they make from their dress.

Although the majority of the money made will be going to the girls from selling their dresses, Fraser hopes that there will be enough girls involved to make a large profit off of selling the hangers. "From all the hangers we sell, we should make a lot of money judging by how many girls seem interested in it," she said.

Many people seem interested enough for there to be a good amount of money made from this. All the information about this will be released in the announcements soon, but anyone who wants to be involved should be able to see Mr. Rineer, head of NHS, to reserve their hanger.

"We're expecting a lot of involvement as long as word gets out," said Fraser. She is currently the only member putting this together, yet she hopes to get help from Mr. Rineer and her mother with the publicity. As of now, the date for this event is undetermined.

"My mom's going to talk to the newspapers and help spread the word," said Fraser. She has hopes that this could possibly be one of the largest successful fundraisers that NHS has.

By gaining all this money from the many fundraisers they do, NHS is able to help many people in the world. When it comes to Christmas, they can buy gifts for families in need. When it comes to everyday NHS activities, they will be able to have a solid set of funds in case they need to pay for anything.

There are many girls who are already interested in selling their dresses, and have been long before this idea came into play.

"I have so many dresses that I have been trying to sell for the longest time. I need to make room for new ones," said Hannah Nichter, junior.

Like many other girls from RHS, Nichter has at least five dresses she'd be willing to sell. With how many dances and formal events Richmond has that girls can attend, like Homecoming and Prom, the RHS girls are left drowning in old dresses.

"I hope to sell my dresses for at least \$75 because of how much money I spent to buy them," said Nichter. She wants to be able to use the money from her old dresses to buy new ones.

"This is extremely helpful because of how hard it is to find a place to sell dresses, especially for a good price. All the organization in this event takes a lot of the stress away from me," said Nichter. The truth is, finding the perfect place to sell your dress seems impossible for some girls.

"With all the people that seemed interested in becoming involved with the NHS Dress Resale, we are expecting a great turnout," said Fraser.

Easter in Richmond

By: Dylan Yore
Sports Editor

How do you celebrate Easter? Do you search for hidden baskets full of treats or assemble in a congregation to recognize the resurrection of Christ?

Easter is a Holiday that recognizes the resurrection of Christ and Passover. This started to be celebrated around 325 A.D.

Easter is a Christian-based festival.

Although, over time the ways of celebrating have changed, Easter is still appreciated through church services, painting Easter eggs and the following of a white, fluffy, magical bunny rabbit.

Junior Haley Nicolopoulos said, "I celebrate Greek Easter with my family. The date of Greek Easter doesn't always fall on the same day as the Christian Easter."

Easter is a moveable holiday. Western Christian churches and Eastern Orthodox churches don't always celebrate Easter on the same date.

In fact, they usually are separate. For example, in 2013 Western Christian churches celebrated Easter on March 31 while Eastern Orthodox churches celebrated it on April 5.

This year both churches will be together on the same date of April 20.

Easter always falls on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. It is within about seven days after the full moon. The following day is Easter Monday, which is a legal holiday.

Nicolopoulos said, "My favorite part about Easter is spending time with my family and the candy I receive in my hidden basket."

Easter brings around traditional dinners including a meat, vegetable and a desert. The desert is commonly candy, as Nicolopoulos stated she looks forward to.

Nicolopoulos said, "We usually have ham and side dishes. For desert my grandmother makes Baklava, which is a Greek desert. We have dinner after our church service."

Churches bring together people for worship and inspire family traditions among its followers.

Nicolopoulos said, "Our church service doesn't really change, but there are usually several baptisms on Palm Sunday.

Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Eastern Monday.

Hiding baskets full of chocolate eggs, yellow fluffy Peeps and other sweets is a common tradition practiced during Easter for families everywhere.

Nicolopoulos said, "In my family we each take a red egg, which symbolizes Christ, and crack it on another family member."

The Easter Bunny or Easter Hare became traditional around the year 1682 in Georg Franck von Franckena's *De ovis paschalis*. This is when the idea of a rabbit bringing eggs to children on Easter.

The Easter Bunny is very similar to Santa Clause when comparing their acts of bringing gifts to children the night before the holiday.

Senior Alexa Perry said, "My family goes to my grandma's house to celebrate Easter."

The depicted Easter bunny is known to bring sweets such as candy, and chocolate bunnies. Painted eggs commonly inhabit the baskets as well.

Perry said, "We have an Easter egg hunt with all of my little cousins and my two sisters, Emma and Sam. We each have to find the basket that my grandma hides for us."

As children the thrill compares to Christmas. Although, on Christmas you don't have to find your gift, they are under the tree.

Perry said, "My grandma hides our baskets very well. We have found baskets in places such as the dryer, behind clothes in closets and under the car in the garage. Grandma always makes Easter interesting for us kids."

Junior Star

Students

Mar Leach



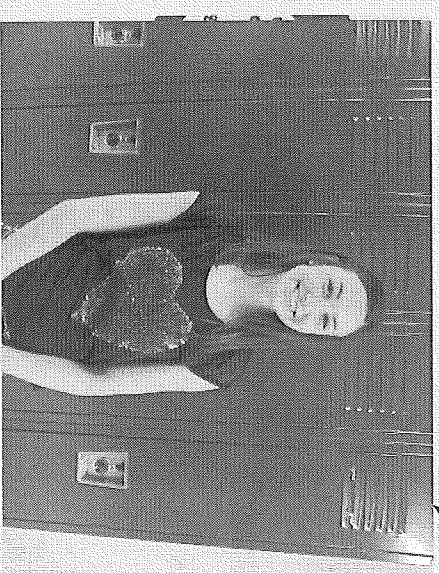
Favorite subject: Psychology

Favorite activity outside of school: Theatre

Role Model: Mr. Applegate

Plans after high school: Go to college

Nicole Gladd



Favorite subject: Biology

Favorite activity outside of school: Volleyball and spending time with friends

Role Models: My brother and grandma

Plans after high school: Go to college

Features

WOMEN'S BASKET SHOP

HOURS:

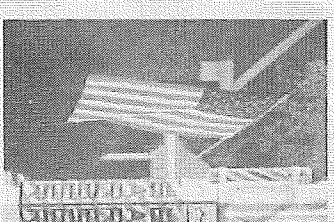
TUES. - THURS. 3 - 6

FRIDAY 3 - 7

SATURDAY 3 - 4

CLOSED MONDAY

69347 Main St. - Richmond
585 727 1515



April 4, 2014